

New York - 5 Novr /49.

My dear Gray - I have had the great pleasure to receive Mr. J's delightful letter from which I gather your news - except as to Botany - I wonder what you are doing, at the moment, precisely, since it seems that you are waiting for plants of the Ex. &c. from Washington. I have also rec'd Lapham's Wisconsin Cat. & a sheet of "Biblio." from Tell. Journ. Since I last wrote you - for both of which many thanks - A word as to this last. It seems that Prof. Tand. has reunitioed his Amheria to Chenopod. but having confined the Char. of the last gen. strictly to the horizontal fruit - how does he include Amb. Batrys with vertical? See his Chenopod. in which it stands as a §. of Amheria - on that very account! I should like to see how he managed this in the Prod? That species, at least, would be a Kambeia, subject only to the not completely annular embryo. Again, you say that he puts Acrida into Amaranthaceæ & that *A. resocarpa* appears to be mixed up in a manner that requires much investigation to unravel with *amaranthus tamariscinus* Nutt. &c. &c. Now, in a letter written to you in June /48 commenting on the Chenopod. in the "Mammal" I had the temerity to express myself, as follows, - "I am not satisfied with *Acrida* - it belongs to Amaranthaceæ - has the ped. & char. I think - indeed I think it is a mere *amaranthus*, but certainly it must go wherever *A. tamarisc.* is placed - As to the bracts &c. &c. Thus much from my letter book - the remainder you can refer to if my letter still exists - Your answer was merely & courteously (more too) thus -

"As to your talk about Nevada it is all
humbug - for any thing I know to the contrary"!!
As I have not the means of knowing what
Prof. Faro. has written on the subject, I will now
volunteer one other "humbug" for your future
investigation - If I know the Staminate plant
of *Ac. rusocarpa* & *Amar. tamarisc.* they are
indistinguishable - in other words, absolutely iden-
tical - me judice. Perhaps, however, I may not
have them both, as I have supposed.

I return your specimens, by Adams Express. having
gone carefully thro' them again - I find, however, that
my Spec's are, upon the whole, larger than yours
& I have no new light upon the subject. You will
observe my pencil mem. on your sheets - In 2 or 3 cases
you have misplaced the Vernacular (barbarous) names which
is only of consequence should our friend Spalding hereafter
send the fruiting umbels under the same - by which the
certainty of bringing the specimens together might be more
secure - The *Carex*'s in Spalding's Plants were
only 4 - *C. C. Hook.* *Douglasii*, *Benth.* (young)
Straminea, *W.* & *angustata* *B. verticil.* *Benth* in Hook. & Arn.
(now *C. verticillata*, *Benth* Lipp!) the last two old, & with most
of the perig. fallen - This is all you require as to the
Spalding Plants - I return you your list, & hope to re-
ceive the remaining part from you when completed -
Especially, bear in mind the Scroph. with reference
to my numbered flowers, in your possession - I shall not
otherwise understand your determinations, in the absence
of characters - I send you another piece of the *Graphephorum*!

which I had laid out for Brother Sam. & could have sent
you more yet, but that I plied down what you gave me,
(quite a clump) out of Brother Sharpe's plants - Had you
not selected my specimens yourself I suppose you would
now say that I cribbed the whole, understandingly - On
the subject of Grapes I have asked you very many times,
what is the true *Poa hirsuta*, Nicht. which from your
remark in the "Manual" you appear to know? I have
lately been putting the Oregon & Calif. Compos. of the &
Rep. in order for Torrey, & find there a *Chrysopis*
wh. you label "*C. echinoides* Benth." - This seems to me
exactly N. 7 of Geyer's br. Pl. (the "*C. villosa* B. Minn &
Hook.") which you & I both referred in the Spalding
Plants to *hispida* - See your remark Pl. Tenu. p. 77. -
Let me know what you think - I have no other knowledge
of Benth's plant - I am alarmed about the "Trifera
with decidedly yellow rays" - We shall have to steer
between *Chrysopis* - *Stenotes* - & *Aplopappus*!
A very uncomfortable piece of navigation it will be
if more such trifera turn up - you may depend upon it.

Thus much of Botany - & I may now let me have your
safe remarks on what I have written - some day! My
best love to dear Mrs. F. with thanks for her kind &
interesting letter. I have been too much of a tourist
this year to permit myself a visit to Boston, tho' I
should like to be with you & friend Harvey whom
I yet hope to know, as his frank & friendly correspondence
once have predisposed me strongly in his favour -
I should like to have met Richardson once again, to
at your table - Torrey is now lecturing - Mrs. F. was in town
for 2 days last week, & Jane & Eliza are still at Boston.
This is all I have of interest to Mrs. F. I shall write her when I
have any thing left over than Botany to talk about -

My best respects to Mr. Harvey & love to all thitors
with much to yourself. From Mr. aff. H.

You will notice amongst the few things I
send you a Survey for the "Marine" &
1 or 2 papers at to which I want your ideas.

Opposite from

Cambridge

Prof. A. D. Ide

